



July 2, 2018

## **JIDO**

### **Cutting-Edge Portable Explosive Detector**

i-HLS - Israel Homeland Security, July 1

*The U.S. Navy will soon have new portable detection capabilities through the SEEKERe EDK (Explosive Detection Kit). The kit represents the cutting edge in portable, ruggedized, battle-ready detection with simple, video-guided operation. The testing was jointly funded by the Physical Security Equipment Action Group (PSEAG) and the Joint Improvised-Threat Defeat Organization (JIDO) and met the requirements of the Fleet Forces Command.*

## **GLOBAL AND STRATEGIC VIEW**

### **Joint Artificial Intelligence Center Created Under DoD CIO**

BreakingDefense.com, June 29

*The Pentagon has created a new Joint Artificial Intelligence Center (JAIC) that will have oversight over almost all service and defense agency AI efforts.*

### **ISIS getting 'stronger' in Afghanistan, says State Department**

Washington Examiner Online, June 30

*The Islamic State's Afghanistan affiliate has gotten stronger over the last few years despite the aggressive efforts of the U.S.-led coalition in the country, a State Department official says.*

### **Put back on terror-financing watch list, Pakistan vows to improve**

Reuters, June 30

*Placed back on a terror financing watch list, Pakistan vowed to tighten regulations and follow an action plan to curb money laundering and terror financing.*

### **Sahel anti-terror force vows to fight on after suicide attack on HQ**

Agence France-Presse, June 30

*A five-nation African anti-terror task force vowed Saturday to press on in its battle against jihadists, the day after a suicide attack on the outfit's headquarters in Mali killed two soldiers and a civilian.*

### **The Pentagon's Quiet Drone War In Libya**

Task & Purpose, June 30

*Amid gradually escalating U.S. military involvement in countries like Yemen and Somalia, a new analysis suggests that the Department of Defense has conducted 550 drone strikes in Libya since 2011, a wave of airstrikes that eclipses those conducted in Yemen, Somalia, and even Pakistan.*

## **WORLDWIDE IED EVENTS**

### **Terrorist Attack Targets Assyrian Force in Northeast Syria**

AINA (press release), July 1

*According to a military report, a motorcycle VBIED (vehicle borne improvised explosive device) targeted a Sootooro checkpoint inside the Al-Ghassaniyah District of Hasakah.*

## **THREAT NETWORKS**

### **Afghanistan: ISIS IED expert, in charge of urban attacks killed in Jalalabad city**

Ahlul Bayt News Agency, July 1

*A key ISIS Khurasan group member who was in charge of coordinating in the urban areas and expert in producing IEDs was killed during an operation of the Afghan armed forces.*

### **Terrorists, criminals reap more than \$43 billion a year from Latin America's Tri-Border Area**

Homeland Security News, May/July 2018

*Terrorists and criminals are able to pocket up to \$800 million a week or \$43 billion a year from activities taking place in Latin America's Tri-Border Area (TBA), according to a new report.*

## **INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **The Pentagon Is Building a Dream Team of Tech-Savvy Soldiers**

WIRED, July 2

*An idea blossomed into a formal partnership between Army Cyber and the Defense Digital Service. The new initiative merges the Army's top technologists with experts from the private sector.*

### **Science Projects with Purpose**

Air Force Magazine, August 2018

*The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency turned 60 this year, and its director, Steven H. Walker, feels he has a clear mandate from Pentagon leaders and the White House: Focus on the threat.*

## **COUNTER-IED**

### **Northrop Secures \$97M Option on Navy Counter IED Tech Supply Contract**

GovConWire, July 2

*Northrop Grumman has received a \$96.5 million contract modification from the U.S. Navy to produce systems designed to protect troops, vehicles and structures against radio-controlled improvised explosive devices (RC-IEDs).*

### **Australia, New Zealand now restrict powder in hand bags, India may follow suit**

Times of India, July 2

*The U.S. Transport Security Administration new rules after a foiled attempt to put an IED using powder explosives on a Gulf carrier.*

### **COLOMBIA: Government Destroys 205 FARC Hiding Places For Weapons And Ammo**

Business Insider, July 1

*The Colombian authorities dismantled 205 caletas (hiding places) in which the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) former guerrilla group had attempted to hide weapons and explosives.*

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## **COUNTER-UAS**

### **MyDefence launches new wearable PITBULL counter UAS system**

Army Technology, July 2

*A Danish company has launched the next-generation wearable counter unmanned aircraft system (UAS) solution that uses smart jamming techniques.*

### **Raytheon is Building a 100kW Tactical Laser**

Defense Update, July 2

*The Army's Indirect Fire Protection Capability, Increment 2 — Intercept (IFPC Inc 2-I) is an acquisition program designed to provide a material solution to protect troops from cruise missiles, unmanned aerial systems (UAS), and rockets, artillery, and mortars (RAM).*

## **NUCLEAR DETERRENCE**

### **Beneath the surface, a quiet superpower race for nuclear supremacy**

USA Today Online, June 30

*The world's three largest naval powers are all developing the next generation of their nuclear submarine fleets, accelerating the underwater arms race between the United States, China and Russia.*

### **How America Protects Its Citizens and Allies from Ballistic Missiles**

DefenseOne.com, June 29

*Whether it's U.S. islands like Guam or Hawaii, coastal cities like San Diego or New York City, or allied territories oceans away, the 21st century has heightened the threat of ballistic missiles to the United States and its allies.*